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ORPHEUS IN THE STREET

I passed a hurdy-gurdy playing in the street
A haunting ancient tune to tempt the feet;
  But nobody paused to listen,
  Nobody paused to look,
Although the ragged tune entranced me in the street.

I thought my heart would break as I stood listening there
To ragged Orpheus grinding out his air;
  For nobody paused to listen,
  Nobody paused to look,
Although the ancient gods of Greece flocked round us there.

IN WINTER

I am content to wait for spring,
  To cherish winter days;
I am grown fearful of the thing
  That hurts in hidden ways.

I almost fear for March to pass
  Because of spring's swift feet;
The hushed green coming of the grass
  Will make the earth too sweet.

B. K. van Slyke